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Column One By David Courtney

THE French crisis is confusing. The roots of it have lain there since the National Assembly, fearful of the many threats and Communists, in 1951 passed an electoral law frankly intended to keep the two threatening extremes in check. Perhaps indeed, the roots of the current crisis are part and parcel of P.E. itself, to which system have been attributed most of the French Parliamentary ills since the war; and the ills have been many. Two weeks ago a vote in favour of single-member constituencies was given; but the Chamber then voted to suspend all further action until the Government had made up its mind how to proceed. The Government should be drawn, then began a series of Party manoeuvres in which each separate political group sought to prevent a constitutional reform from taking a shape injurious to its own prospects, and in the end M. Faure decided to make the resumption of the electoral debate a question of confidence. He did so on Tuesday and his government fell.

It was generally thought that even if M. Faure was not given the confidence of the Assembly, general elections would come in the first half of February. In fact, although the Assembly's majority has been bitterly opposed to early elections, mainly because they would have gone to a new electoral system which would have favoured certain parties over others, M. Faure seems to have stolen a march on his opponents. General elections will be held on January 2, and the voting will be as set out in the discredited law of 1951. There seems to have been no fundamental disagreement on the necessity for electoral reform and the desirability of a return to the constituency system. The disagreement has been, as it must always be, on the form of the constituency system.

It is pretty evident, however, that M. Faure preferred the bad old system to a long, tedious and perhaps critical debate, which would have had the effect of postponing general elections until the spring. What this seems to have amounted to in the political sense is that he preferred the old system to have early elections to a debate and late elections that would have given his fellow-radicals, M. Mendes-France, time to gather together left-wing groups and left-wingers from centre groups as a unified following. Mendes-France had set his heart on this as well as his heart on the premiership in the next Parliament. M. Faure's efforts to prevent it, by forcing an early election, resulted in the defeat of the Radicals. On balance, it is difficult to know whether M. Faure's right-wing Radicals or M. Mendes-France's left-wing Radicals will benefit. But if M. Mendes-France becomes the next Prime Minister, it is almost certain that he will bring in an early electoral reform Bill.

FRANCE had a single-member constituency system before the war, when the franchise was exclusively male. With women voting today, and taking into account the big shifts in population brought about during the period of German occupation, it is felt in many quarters that a resumption of the pre-war system would bring with it considerable injustice. One proposal has been to divide the electorate of 24 million voters into constituencies on a population basis, disregarding the Prefecture and sub-Prefecture boundaries and reducing the number of seats in the General Assembly from 636 to 527. The second proposal, favoured by M. Mendes-France, sees the 89 Departments of France divided into 636 constituencies, but by this system 35,000 voters in the south would elect a deputy while 70,000 would be necessary to elect one in the north. The Radicals, who do well by this system, but the M.R.P. and the Communists have their backing in the north and are in no mood to pay a higher price for their seats than the Radicals.

It was expected that M. Faure would try to work out a compromise between the proportional and the majority systems, and in the long run that may be the only means of escape from the "rigged" and generally unsatisfactory system now operating. The deputies themselves, even those who in principle support the idea of the constituency system, are unhappy at the thought of it in practice. One of them, during the recent debate, burst out with the complaint: "But the single-member system means that half the deputies in the next Assembly will be new men and inexperienced." Indeed that would be so, but it is probable that the French electorate has not been greatly impressed by the inexperience and emulations of its experienced legislators, and would welcome a little freshness.

It is so much of the rest of the world probably agrees with the French electorate. Jerusalem, December 4.

French Gov't Sets Elections For January 2

PARIS, Saturday. — French deputies today began a month of what promises to be bitter campaigning for a general election on Monday, January 2. The election date was decided on last night after Government legal advisers had found a way around a clause in the constitution which almost "frozen" the poll for a day earlier — Sunday, New Year's Day.

New Year's Day is a major festival holiday in France, and was one of the reasons why Government leaders were anxious to dodge an election on that day. The constitution says that elections must be held within 30 days of a decree dissolving the National Assembly. The decree was signed on Thursday night and published yesterday.

Government lawyers decided last night, however, that the decree could only be considered effective when it had reached all local authorities, which would take 24 hours. So the 30-day period, the lawyers then ruled, could officially start from today and run over into January 2.

Faure Opens Attack
M. Faure yesterday struck his first blow in the election campaign by announcing a programme to double the standard of living in 10 years, make new roads, and to improve the spirit in East-West affairs, and a continued liberal approach in relations with North Africa. He launched his programme at a mammoth press conference attended by some 200 French and foreign journalists less than 24 hours after his chief rival for national leadership, M. Mendes-France, had persuaded the directing body of the Radical Party to which he belonged, to expel the Premier.

M. Faure failed last night in a bid to get M. Mendes-France out of his own political group. He called a meeting of the loosely-knit Rally of Left Republicans (R.L.R.) to consider expelling his arch political rival, but instead of doing so, a decision by 26 votes to nine which confirmed M. Faure in the presidency of the group. (Reuter, UP)

Surprise Session Of Supreme Soviet Called

MOSCOW, Saturday (Reuter). — An unexpected session of the Supreme Soviet — Russia's Parliament — was called yesterday to meet in Moscow on December 5.

The announcement, signed by President Klement Voroshilov, gave no reason for the session, but it was expected that the session would be called to discuss the forthcoming five-year plan or to provide the forum for a major government declaration. It is thought more likely that the Soviet leaders want to use the Supreme Soviet for foreign policy reasons.

PURGE REPORTED IN AFGHANISTAN

KARACHI, Saturday (Reuter). — The Associated Press of Pakistan reported yesterday that the Afghan War Minister and Commander-in-Chief, General Mohammed Arif, has been dismissed and arrested by order of the Premier, Daud Khan.

Over 10 other military and civilian officers have also been arrested, the agency said.

Locust Remnants Fly Off to Rehovot

By ZVI HALBER, Jerusalem Post Reporter
TEL AVIV, Saturday. — The swarm of locusts which occupied the northern sector of the city for the past three days has been driven away leaving most of the pests dead and dying. Tonight small and scattered groups have settled in the south of the city and to the south-east as far as Rehovot and Rishon le-Zion. But the Plant Protection Department of the Ministry of Agriculture told The Jerusalem Post that they give no cause for concern.

The parts of the city which the pests occupied two days ago became the last resting place for many of the locusts. The vigorous action taken by Agriculture Ministry workers. Those which remained alive were driven off the city walls of the uncompleted Nordau Plaza and in other places which could not be sprayed from the air. Some of those which seemed to have escaped the poisonous spray fell on their flight southwards and will die tonight. The "red invaders" was joined at 5.30 a.m. today, when a Piper cub aircraft of Chaim-Aviv took to the air on the first of its many flights against the enemy.

Flying at "zero feet," the Piper made several runs over a grove near Tel Baruch, which was the resting place last night for the swarm of locusts which had arrived earlier in the day from the "Little Triangle." The hundreds of thousands of insects changed the colour of the tree tops from green to rusty red, matching the carpet made by those which were killed as a result of yesterday's spraying.

As the grey morning clouds which turned to pink, the locusts, feeling the warmth of the rising sun, began to stir. Just before 7.30 a.m. the locusts made an attempt to rise, but the effect of the poison was already beginning to be felt, and many locusts fell to the ground, too weak to remain aloft. The remainder settled on the tree tops once more and waited.

Area Marked
Meanwhile, ground crew members of the Joint Force of the Plant Protection Department and Chaim-Aviv were busy tracing other spots where the locusts had been seen, and marking the area for the guidance of the pilot of the plane. After one of the radio-controlled flights, the locusts were seen to be concentrated in a new concentration three kilometres long by 500 metres wide, a spraying tank being used to bring the locusts into service.

Water for the dilution of the poison was brought by a fire-brigade tank, which filled a collapsible canvas water tank near the aircraft's loading point. Dr. Avraham Greenberg, Head of the Entomology Section of the Plant Protection Department, told The Jerusalem Post that the fire-brigade as well as the police and Army were a great help during the fight against the locust invasion. He paid tribute to the eight-man crew which he headed today, and added that nobody he singled out for special mention, because the operation depended upon teamwork.

A state of general mobilization has been declared in Jordan authorizing the Ministry of Agriculture to recruit every male citizen over 14 for the fight against locusts, an official Jordan spokesman declared last night. Since November 4, a total of 22 swarms of locusts have settled in Jordan and new swarms have been observed during the last 24 hours in the Dead Sea area and in southern Jordan.

15,000 Children Hope For Toy Fund Gifts

Approximately 15,000 children in kindergarten schools, Government institutions and clubs are hoping for gifts from the Hanukkah Toy Fund of The Jerusalem Post and the Jewish Agency. The fund's contributions of IL200,000 brought the total to IL400,000. Many children will be disappointed unless the gifts bring in their cash contributions and gifts immediately.

At the exhibition and sale of products of the Women's League Workshop opening at 7.30 this evening at the Beit Hahatnot in Jerusalem, there will be a "Donation Drive" to raise the fund on the spot. The exhibition will be open all day Monday, too.

Hanukkah starts on Saturday. Distribution must start on Wednesday. (Donors' List — Page 3)

Lydda Man Arrested For Wife's Murder

Jerusalem Post Reporter
TEL AVIV, Saturday. — A 43-year-old woman of the old Arab quarter in Lydda was murdered after midnight on Thursday. Her husband had been arrested, the police here reported yesterday.

A resident of the quarter phoned the police there late on Thursday night and reported that his neighbour, Yusuf Asraf, 52, was stabbing his wife Rachel. The police went to the address together with a doctor and found the woman already dead, some three metres from her door.

Jundi, Glubb's Deputy, Retired

AMMAN, Saturday. — The Jordan Council of Ministers today announced its decision to transfer into retirement Major-General Ahmed Sudki Jundi, Deputy Chief of Staff, of the Arab Legion, which is commanded by the British Lt. General John Glubb.

No reason was given for the decision.

The "Jewish Observer" reported in London yesterday that an "officer club" similar to that which conducted the anti-Farouk coup in Egypt, has begun clandestine operations inside the Arab Legion. The name of the organization is "Jordan officers' League of Struggle" and the main target of its propaganda, the "Arab Legion" reports, is General Glubb and the British. (INA, Reuter)

U.K., Egypt Revise Sudanese Treaty

CAIRO, Saturday (Reuter). — Britain and Egypt today signed an agreement on the procedure for Sudan's self-determination. Under the agreement, signed by the British Ambassador here, Sir Humphrey Trevelyan, and Foreign Minister Mahmoud Fawzi, the people of the Sudan will vote in a plebiscite to decide whether the territory, ruled jointly by Britain and Egypt for 50 years, will become an independent state or have some form of union with Egypt.

Seven nations — India, Pakistan, Sweden, Norway, Yugoslavia, Switzerland and Czechoslovakia — have been invited to form an international commission to supervise the plebiscite.

Under the 1953 Anglo-Egyptian agreement the Sudan was given until 1957 to decide whether to accept union with Egypt or to become independent. The agreement provided for the election of a constituent assembly which would take the decision, but, in the meantime, the Sudanese Parliament asked Britain to revise the last clause of the agreement and proceed to the plebiscite.

As soon as the results of the plebiscite and of the elections for the constituent assembly are declared, the two Governments will consult together with representatives of the Sudanese Parliament on the steps to be taken to bring the process of self-determination and the Condominium to an end.

U.N. ASSEMBLY DROPS MOROCCAN QUESTION

UNITED NATIONS, Saturday (Reuter). — The U.N. General Assembly today approved a resolution which would take the decision, but, in the meantime, the Sudanese Parliament asked Britain to revise the last clause of the agreement and proceed to the plebiscite.

As soon as the results of the plebiscite and of the elections for the constituent assembly are declared, the two Governments will consult together with representatives of the Sudanese Parliament on the steps to be taken to bring the process of self-determination and the Condominium to an end.

Secret Negotiations On Cyprus Settlement

ATHENS, Saturday (Reuter). — The British Ambassador here, Sir Charles Peake, conferred for 45 minutes today with the Greek Foreign Minister, Mr. Spiros Trikoupi, at the latter's invitation.

Both British and Greek sources refused to disclose the nature of the talks, but it was understood that they were part of secret negotiations on Cyprus now being conducted here.

The Greek Cabinet today decided to reject recommendations which had been made to it by Cypriots living in Greece that should be a Kishinev, Cyprus to the present session of the U.N. General Assembly. In Cyprus itself, today, a gang of terrorists burned down the post office in Lefkoniko after warning the postmaster to run for his life. Lefkoniko, the scene two months ago of the biggest race on a police station, is 33 kilometres east of Nicosia.

Eban to See Dulles On Arms this Week

WASHINGTON, Saturday. — The Israel Ambassador, Mr. Abba Eban, said here yesterday that he will ask the State Department this week when Israel can expect a reply to her request for arms. The arms list was submitted two weeks ago.

Arabs Hit Canadian Offer to Refugees

The Syrian press yesterday called on the Arab states to reject a Canadian offer to receive as immigrants a "limited number" of Palestinian refugees. They said the offer was "only aimed at liquidating the Palestine problem."

Damascus Radio declared yesterday that the Arab states are opposed to the scheme. The Canadian offer was announced in Ottawa on Friday by the Department for External Affairs. The Government reached the decision on Thursday night but officials said that the number to be admitted would be settled only when it is determined how many suitable refugees wanted to enter Canada and how many could be absorbed.

Sharett Asks Canadian Premier for Arms

OTTAWA, Saturday (INA). — The Israel Foreign Minister, Mr. Moshe Sharett, asked the Canadian Prime Minister, Mr. Louis St. Laurent, to help Israel in her fight against the Arab forces in the Middle East.

Mr. Sharett left this afternoon after two days in Canada. He is returning to Washington for talks with Secretary of State Dulles.

Unanimous Vote for Atom Agency

UNITED NATIONS, Saturday (Reuter). — The U.N. General Assembly today unanimously approved moves to set up an international agency on the peaceful uses of atomic energy. A 13-nation group which will work on the atomic statute will meet on January 25.

Today's resolution adopted by the Soviet Union, India, Brazil and Czechoslovakia to the original eight major Western atomic powers — Britain, the U.S., Canada, Australia, France, Belgium, Portugal and South Africa. A Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister, Mr. Vasily Kuznetsov, supported the resolution but repeated the Soviet call for prohibition of all atomic weapons as the best means of ensuring the fullest benefits from the atomic age.

He also said that all states, irrespective of their ideology, should be given an opportunity of taking part in the agency, and regretted that a Soviet proposal that the agency be set up within the framework of the U.N. had not been adopted.

The Assembly also approved the establishment of a 15-nation group of scientists to study the effects of atomic radiation on man and his environment. All members were invited to report to the scientific committee on their own scientific observations.

Hiroshima Victim Dies

TOKYO, Saturday (Reuter). — The Kyodo News Agency claimed today that a Japanese farmer who died today had been killed by atomic disease brought on by the Hiroshima explosion 10 years ago. The farmer, Kishiro Eiko, 50, was less than two kilometres from the centre of the Hiroshima explosion and had been in poor health ever since.

The news agency said that the death of Eiko, who entered hospital in July of this year, brought to 16 the number of people who had died of atomic disease this year.

Egypt Signs New \$230m. Arms Deal With Czechs

WASHINGTON, Saturday. — Despite Egyptian Embassy denials, State Department sources today indicated confirmation of a Cairo report published in various New York papers that Egypt has signed a new contract with Czechoslovakia, this time to buy \$230m. worth of munitions within the next five years.

The original \$50m. contract was announced on September 27. The new deal is thought to provide for sufficient jet planes to give Egypt numerical supremacy over Israel even if Israel is able to buy all the jets it is seeking from the U.S. (INA, UP)

B.G.: Basis Exists For 'Equal Peace'

NEW YORK, Saturday (INA). — An International News Service interview with Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion quotes the Premier as saying that "Peace between Israel and her neighbours is possible on the basis of equality and mutual benefit. Neither Israel nor the Arab states should have to ask for concessions from the other party for peace — peace is its own reward."

Asked if Israel has a settlement plan for the Arab refugees and if she would be willing to share in the cost of resettlement, he replied that "in Syria and Iraq alone, both underpopulated countries though possessing fertile soil, there is room for all the refugees. Israel will help in the settlement of the Arab refugees — provided that peace is first achieved between her and her neighbours — with financial and technical assistance and with her wide experience in refugee settlement," he declared.

Nasser For Rumania

VIENNA, Saturday (Reuter). — Egyptian Premier Gamal Abdel Nasser has accepted an invitation from the Rumanian Premier Chivu Stoila to visit Rumania. Nasser's departure was expected tonight. The date of the visit would be fixed later, the Radio said.

YITO SAILS FOR ETHIOPIA, EGYPT

BELGRADE, Saturday (Reuter). — President Tito yesterday sailed from the Dalmatian port of Sibenik in the 5,600-ton naval training ship Galeb (Seagull) for his state visit to Ethiopia and Egypt. The Galeb is being escorted by two Yugoslav destroyers.

Jordan Rifle Fire Near Petah Tikva

Rifle fire from within Jordan territory was directed yesterday morning at a group of hikers near Kibbutz Nahsholim in the vicinity of Petah Tikva, the Army spokesman announced.

Nobody was hit. An official account of the incident at Kibbutz on Thursday was given by the Army spokesman on Friday, who stated that a shot was fired from a Jordanian position in the vicinity of Kibbutz on Thursday afternoon. The firing increased in volume as other Egyptian posts joined in the shooting, which included mortar fire. Our forces returned the fire, and the exchange of shots continued desultorily for over two hours. Two of our soldiers were slightly wounded, the statement concluded.

AMER QUILTS JORDAN ONE DAY EARLY

AMMAN, Saturday (Reuter). — Egypt's War Minister, Major General Abdul Hakim Amer, today ended a 4-day state visit to Jordan with a tour of Arab Legion camps on the east bank of the River Jordan. He was due to have stayed until tomorrow.

BEER

for health!

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We regret to announce the sudden death of our beloved husband, father and grandfather,
Henry Shachter
who died yesterday at the age of 75.
The funeral will leave from the home of the deceased:
49 Chen Blvd., Tel Aviv, at 2 p.m. today.
THE BEREAVED FAMILY

MINE IS BLEEDING BAD MARGARINE

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Cables in Brief
AMNESTY. — Dr. Dragolj
Novacic, 80-year-old for
ward of the Serbian For
party who was jailed in 1947,
freed by President
under an amnesty decree
shad yesterday on the
tion of the Yugoslav nat
ay. Pardons or reduced
ations were granted to 84
ons as against 2,160 last
BERGERS. — The U.N.
Organization will use
\$5,000 Nobel Peace Prize
this year to finance the
ship of a refugee centre on

JUDGES. — Italy's Constitutional Court was completed yesterday after seven years when the President of the Republic, Giovanni Gronchi, on the last day of its 15 jubilee, five judges were elected. Five by Italian magistrates and five others were chosen by parliament earlier this week. Some are and complicated no-

BEN-GURION SPEECH ON ARMY PUBLISHING

in book form by "Ma'ariv"
The Army publishing house
Much of the material has
been published before.

WEIZMANN
ish Commonwealth
(Aviv Branch)

Lecture

et Aviv, will be held

5. AT 8.45 P.M.
r. K.C.M.G., Litt., D.F.B.
g of International-History
economics.
Foreign Policy
e British Ambassador,
lls, C.M.G., O.B.E.
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10	H.P.	1946	Model
22	H.P.	1946	Model
28.35	H.P.	1940	Model
65	B.H.P.	1942	Model

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434,
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on Monday, Dec. 1
st.
w state the price offered

Following purchase, the vehicle was delivered to the Shell Installation with the Company's notification of the vehicle's status in connection with the purchase. The Company does not bind itself to accept the vehicle for use.

